

# Treasury Department,

BUREAU OF THE MINT,

Washington, D. C., May 28, 1888.

Hon. Daniel M. Fox,

Superintendent U.S. Mint,

Philadelphia.

Sir:

In reply to yours of the 25th of May designating as "helpers" four men whose services are dispensed with in the Melter and Refiner's department, and proposing to transfer them to the General department, it does not seem to me that such transfer is at all necessary, in view of the excessive number of employees now borne on the rolls of the General department as compared with the number so borne July 1, 1885 (110 to 126).

Whatever might be the requirement for such labor under certain contingencies, such as the erection of a vault at the hands of the Mint force, such requirements cannot be provided for in anticipation of any such work.

My own observation tends to the belief that the General department is over-full and ought to be materially reduced rather than increased. Failing to understand any necessity for its increase at this time, I withhold my consent to the transfer

proposed, at least until I can see you, which will be, probably, in the course of this week.

My feeling is a growing one that the force at Philadelphia is greatly out of proportion to the work executed, judging by the relative scale of work and execution at New Orleans and San Francisco.

I do not object to employing these men temporarily in the General department, pending the question of its increase of work, conditionally upon the erection of a vault.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. V. Mendenhall", written in a cursive style.

Director of the Mint.

Treasury Dept  
Washington D.C.  
May 28/88  
James P. Kimball  
Director.

Transfer of four men from  
M & R Dept to Genl Dept un-  
necessary. Excessive number  
of Employees on roll compar-  
ed with July 1, 1885.

Thinks Genl Dept is overfull  
& ought to be reduced.

Withholds consent to the  
transfer, does not object  
to employing them tem-  
porarily in Genl Dept.



[Abstract:] Transfer of four men from M & R Dept. to Gen'l Dept. unnecessary...

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